

McGOVERN THE CHAMPION

George Dixon Loses a Fast Battle in the Eighth Round.

The Plucky Defender of the Featherweight Championship Throws Up the Sponge to Save a Knockout—The Victor a Fighting Marvel—Impervious to Punishment—The Prize

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Hopelessly beaten, though not knocked out, George Dixon, of Bescon, who has been the featherweight champion pugilist for ten years, surrendered his title to the wonderful little Brooklyn fighter, Terry McGovern, in the eighth round of their glove contest at the Broadway Athletic Club tonight.

Tom O'Rourke, Dixon's mentor and chief second, performed an act of mercy when he threw up the sponge after the little colored man had been knocked down five times and there was no hope for him. It would have been a cause for sorrow if Dixon had been permitted to continue the battle until one of McGovern's fearful blows knocked him unconscious to the floor. His career warranted a merciful ending, for no pugilist in the world today can show a clearer or more sportsmanlike record than George Dixon.

Though he had indulged in more than 500 contests, and had in that time suffered but one knock-out, McGovern's victory before met a man the equal of the new champion. It was truly a test of youth and strength against age and experience. McGovern showed conclusively that he is the fighting marvel of the present time. Impervious to all blows, regardless of the best scientific methods employed by Dixon, this wonderful little light-colored machine simply triumphed because of his magnificent physique, his bulldog tenacity, and his wonderful punishing ability.

Dixon Did the Leading.

Dixon did the leading for a greater part of the time, driving his left hand into the stomach and also to the neck. Whenever the occasion presented itself George whipped over the right with all the power that his condition would permit. All of his blows were hard enough to floor an ordinary boxer, but McGovern, with his muscular legs and grand physique, stood up under them without flinching. Once or twice Terry was staggered from the force of the punches, but in each case he only increased the vigor of his attack, which he knew would follow the blow, and he came less before a greater part of the fight had been completed.

McGovern followed out a plan of action that showed careful study. He went after Dixon's body just as he did in his fight with Palmer. With swiftly moving hands he ripped in the body blows every time he got a chance, and especially in the clinches he used free hands upon the heart and kidneys. That Dixon was unquestionably weakened by these smashes there is not a shadow of doubt, for gradually the former champion lost his steam, and when he began to hold on in the clinches veteran ring followers saw the beginning of the end.

With his nose broken and his face bruised in several places, and his body battered so severely that his wind was gone, it was not strange that Dixon came up for the eighth and last round with weakness in his legs. But he was game and went in once more to mix matters. A hook to the jaw, followed by a swift, straight body punch finally knocked him down. It took all of Dixon's remaining strength away and made him virtually helpless. He was floored again, and again, and when he had been down for the fifth time, O'Rourke, rather than see him knocked completely out, threw a sponge into the ring, which ended the battle.

The receipts amounted to about \$20,000. It is said, of which one-half went to the fighters. Of that amount McGovern will receive about \$11,000, to say nothing of the prize which he and his manager have been making for a while. The fight was well conducted, the crowd was skillfully handled, and everybody went away satisfied that the best man had won. Probably \$250,000 in bets changed hands on the result.

A Rush for Seats.

As early as 5 o'clock the crowd began to collect in Broadway in front of the clubhouse. In the throng were many who wanted to buy the 50 seats as soon as they were put on sale. This was at 6 o'clock, and the tickets were disposed of rapidly.

There was such a rush for tickets at 6 o'clock that it is understood the club decided to raise the price from \$5 to \$8. The announcement that John White would referee the fight instead of Charlie White did not please everybody. The former official has not had much success with class decisions, but nobody questioned his honesty, and everybody hoped that he would not be considered as giving a ruling at the end of twenty-five rounds.

Along toward 5 o'clock the crowd was growing so rapidly in size that gangway was a hard job to tackle. Odds of ten to seven on McGovern were offered at 5 o'clock, which indicated that he would enter the ring the favorite at a good price. All of the star sports were present when the preliminary was put on. Master of Ceremonies Joe Hunsicker, Dr. J. J. McLaughlin, Dougherty, of Philadelphia, and Alf Levy, formerly a local amateur. They were to box twelve rounds at 110 pounds. Dougherty got the decision.

It was announced that the men would be handled as follows: Dixon, by Sam Harris, Terry Lee, and Charley Mayhew, with Mike Padden holding the watch.

It was 7:25 o'clock when Dixon appeared. McGovern came a few minutes later. As he got into the ring a great cheer greeted him. McGovern's hands were both bagged, but Dixon was not going to be governed by strict Marquis of Queensberry rules, no holding allowed. There was no long pose now in the ring, everything having been settled beforehand. The conditions were twenty-five rounds at 118 pounds for the featherweight championship and half the gate receipts.

The Fight by Rounds.

Round 1—They shook hands at 9:45 o'clock. Dixon was the first to lead. He threw a heavy left over McGovern's shoulder. Terry got into a mix-up and began pounding the body with a free hand. Dixon pumped in again with a solid left on the body. They clinched, both men hitting with free hands. Dixon was finally driven to the ropes, where they broke away. Dixon led again a long left in the region of the stomach, and McGovern, getting into a half-clinch, pounded the kidneys with his right. Dixon came again with a left into the stomach, and once more McGovern used a free hand to drive Terry back. On the breakaway Dixon put his left to the body again, and in the clinch that followed both men stood perfectly still, without a move. Dixon drove his left for the head on the next attack, and McGovern hammered the body with his right as before. Both men were very fast, and the fighting was very vicious. Dixon finally landed a heavy left on the jaw, and received a cross-counter on the neck. George came again with a straight left to the mouth, whereupon they got into a slugging match that lasted until the gong. It was fierce fighting.

Round 2—Dixon opened the ball with a left swing that was high. The next moment

men were at hammer and tongs in a half-clinch. McGovern pounded the ribs with his right until Dixon grabbed him around the neck and hung on. Dixon was the aggressor, but he found that Terry liked this style of fighting, no matter how fast it was. Dixon continued his fast assault, finally catching McGovern heavily on the jaw with a left swing. Terry drove in both hands to the stomach, but still the champion was at him. Right and left swings were exchanged. McGovern finally being driven to a corner and his head going through the ropes. A terrific rally ensued. Dixon holding his own. The champion was so fast that McGovern had his hands full. It was give and take, Dixon finding no trouble in reaching his antagonist. Another clinch showed that Dixon was strong, and once again he reached the neck with the left. The pace was so fast that nobody believed it could go the limit. The faces of both men were red and slightly puffed at the gong.

Round 3—Dixon was first to lead with a left in the body, and as they got out of a clinch he swung a heavy right to the side of the head. McGovern confined all of his punching to the body, but he did not have a chance to put in any swings all of his blows being told. McGovern did not break any ground, however, when he received a smash, but was coming all the time. Dixon continued to mix it with him, and in blow after blow upon the head. Then they got into a half-clinch and were allowed to remain there without interference. Dixon was punching fully as hard as his opponent, and more every drive he sent in went to the heart. McGovern soon let up with his body blows, as Dixon staggered him with a right-hand swing on the jaw. Terry's legs saved him from going down, but he pulled up in his attack. Dixon was after him like a flash, and Terry, for the first time in the fight, was guessing. Dixon continued to do the leading to the end of the round, which was in his favor.

MANY MENTAL WRECKS

An Increase of Insanity Among Soldiers Serving Abroad.

Over Two Hundred Demented Troopers Treated at St. Elizabeth's Asylum in the Last Eighteen Months—Twelve More Arrive Monday Night—Two Escape En Route.

The War Department officials are greatly interested in the cases of twelve insane soldiers who have been brought to St. Elizabeth's Hospital for treatment. The soldiers were all serving in the Philippines, and are the last lot of a couple of hundred soldiers who have been brought to St. Elizabeth's since the war with Spain. Nearly all of these soldiers have become demented while serving in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines, and the authorities of St. Elizabeth's have been endeavoring to ascertain the causes which have made mental wrecks of so many of the soldiers. The only theory so far advanced is that the insanity is the result of malarial fever and the excessive heat of the tropics.

It is said that many of the soldiers suffer from malarial fever for months without being confined to hospitals. The nervous system is finally attacked and the excessive heat of the tropics finally ending in a form of insanity. Of the 200 soldiers treated at St. Elizabeth's in the last eighteen months for insanity contracted in the tropics more than 50 per cent have been cured and rest and proper treatment and discharged.

The soldiers just brought to the asylum arrived at San Francisco about ten days ago. They were placed in a special car under a guard of ten soldiers. There were fourteen of them when they left San Francisco, but Emeric Muller, Company B, Sixth Infantry, escaped near Sacramento, Cal., and George M. Decker, Company E, Eleventh Infantry, escaped near St. Louis, miles west of St. Louis. Both soldiers jumped from windows of the train while it was going at rapid speed. How they escaped death or serious injuries is a miracle. Decker is said to have been captured and sent to Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, and will be forwarded to St. Elizabeth's. The parties who arrived at St. Elizabeth's were as follows:

Thomas P. Collins, Company G, Sixth Infantry; Sergeant Owen H. Wisman, hospital corps; Privates Thomas F. Barry, hospital corps; Anton Barber, Company K, Fourth Infantry; Michael Gallagher, Company C, Tenth Infantry; George M. Barton, Troop C, Fourth Cavalry; Walter A. O'Neill, Battery F, Sixth Infantry; Louis Ford, Company I, Fourth Infantry; John J. Smith, Company A, Seventeenth Infantry; Thayer, Company I, Seventeenth Infantry; Joseph Hoffman, Company E, Twenty-second Infantry; and George J. Nixon, Company I, Twelfth Infantry.

THE CITY OF RIO POISONING

Careless Selection of Fresh Beef: the Cause of Sickness.

Lieut. Col. E. H. Plummer, of the Thirty-fifth Infantry, has forwarded to the War Department a report of the poisoning of the troops of his regiment on the transport City of Rio en route to the Philippines. After telling of the death of one of the privates and stating that over 200 of the men were made sick, the report recommends that more care be used in selecting and packing fresh meat for use on the transports. It states that an effort was made to get the commissary officers of the City of Rio to accept meat that had been carried to Manila on a transport and not being used, had been returned to San Francisco. The commissary general's attention has been called to the report and he will order an investigation of the statement that old meat was offered the City of Rio officers.

PRATT ANSWERS MORRIS.

The Gallinger Bill Merely Proposes to Regulate Vice-List.

Mr. McMillan, chairman of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, has received a letter from President Pratt, of the Washington Humane Society, relative to the proposed legislation to limit the number of animals kept in the city.

Several other communications have been brought before Congress, from various stock-raising and other bodies, which urge the passage of this measure, two of them being from the Humane Society of Nebraska.

SUBCOMMITTEES NAMED.

The House District Committee Now Ready for Business.

The House District Committee is now organized for business. Chairman Babcock having appointed the following subcommittees:

Ways and Means—Mr. Mercer, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Allen, Mr. Meyer, and Mr. Cowley.

Incorporations—Mr. Mudd, Mr. White, Mr. Smith, Mr. Norton, and Mr. Sims.

Judiciary—Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Smith, Mr. Allen, Mr. Cowley, and Mr. Sims.

Education, Labor and Charities—Mr. Pearce, Mr. Sprague, Mr. White, Mr. Oley, and Mr. Clayton.

Street Railways and Streets—Mr. Babcock, Mr. Harmer, Mr. Sprague, Mr. Pearce, Mr. Latimer, Mr. Meyer, and Mr. Clayton.

Steam Railways—Mr. Harmer, Mr. Babcock, Mr. Mudd, Mr. Mercer, Mr. Latimer, Mr. Norton, and Mr. Oley.

Chairman Babcock expects to have several important local measures ready to call on Monday, which he will introduce by a unanimous agreement, will be District Day.

A REPRESENTATIVE ROBBERED.

Thieves Loot the Apartment of Mr. Robertson of Louisiana.

Diamonds, jewelry, and cash to the amount of \$25, were secured from three guests at Willard's Hotel by a sneak thief, who went through their apartments between 6:30 and 7:30 o'clock Monday night.

The victims included Representative Robertson of Louisiana, who, with his family, occupied room 45; Capt. Charles D. Palmer, and Mrs. Edward Gillett, who occupied apartments on the same floor. Representative Robertson suffered the greatest loss.

The jewelry taken from his room valued at about \$250. Captain Palmer lost \$10 in cash and a pair of gold sleeve buttons, while from Mrs. Gillett the thief secured \$7 in cash. In every instance entrance to the rooms was, it is believed, gained by means of a skeleton key.

The police say that the robbery was committed by an expert.

No Short Skirts for Teachers.

The new rule which forbids public schools has decreed that short skirts must be worn by school teachers during the performance of their duties.

He decided to adopt the girl skirts and high boots. The superintendent insists that their skirts must be at least to the ankles, and that the teachers who have been in a school for years are rejecting the rule.

It is a serious blow to the dress reformers in Kansas, but if they were in Washington they would not consider the law so serious, because considerable comfort can be had by drinking Heurich's beer.

MR. GAGE'S REPLY READY.

His Explanation of Recent Deposits of Public Funds.

Secretary Gage has completed his reply to the Butler and Allen resolutions of enquiry passed by the House of Representatives. This resolution calls for information regarding the deposit of public money in the National City Bank of New York, and the transactions connected with the Hanover National Bank.

It was reported last night that one feature of the forthcoming report would be a statement to the effect that Government money deposited in a national bank, accepted by the President as a safe depository, is still Government call money, and not funds for extended investments. The Secretary of the Treasury by so depositing funds received through collections from internal revenue or from the sale of Government property, the report will say, does not constitute a transfer of the control of such funds to private hands. The money, in other words, deposited in the National City Bank and in the Hanover National Bank of New York, is in the hands of the disposal of the Government, according to the view taken in the report, as though placed for safe keeping in the sub-treasury.

Placing a fair interpretation of the information obtained and controlling the forthcoming report, the National City Bank and the Hanover National Bank of New York, by virtue of being chosen as depositories of public funds, are made temporarily, adjuncts of the United States Treasury.

From the same source it was learned that another paragraph of the report will show that the money received for the sale of the New York custom house was paid into the Treasury as required by law. Profit will be brought forward in the shape of documents to show that the transaction was legitimate and straightforward from the formal agreement to sell the property to the final deposit of the money.

Regarding the question of choosing one or more depositories for the Government funds, Secretary Gage will put the matter entirely on a basis of practicability and convenience, as already expressed in several under a guarantee. It is not expected that anything new or important, apart from what has already been said publicly, will be suggested along this line.

The report will include an exhaustive statement of facts, and an enumeration of the reasons that prompted the course taken in depositing the money. The report will be a summary of the facts, and an enumeration of the reasons that prompted the course taken in depositing the money. The report will be a summary of the facts, and an enumeration of the reasons that prompted the course taken in depositing the money.

THE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

Business Transacted at the Minority Meeting Last Night.

About ninety Democrats met in caucus last night in the Hall of the House of Representatives. The caucus was presided over by the chairman, Mr. Hay, of Virginia.

There was a general exchange of opinions on the political situation, but beyond the designation of Mr. Underwood of Alabama and Mr. Ely of Virginia to look after the caucus and electing a committee to prepare a statement of the caucus, all of which will be described in the appendix of the reply. As a whole, it will be a full explanation of what was done at the caucus, and the reasons for adopting such an unusual course. The report, which is now completed, will be transmitted to Congress today.

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An unusual condition of affairs, however, confronted the members of the organization when called upon to choose a successor to Samuel Maddox, who had been president of the association for two terms, the allotted time which it is permissible under the law, for the chief officer to hold the presidency. The elevation of Job Barnard to the bench of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and the resignation of Mr. Barnard as first vice president of the association, and had not resigned the position when chosen as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, according to the unwritten law of the organization, being elected to succeed Mr. Maddox.

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